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1. "During the last years a number of official organizations have been created in the Soviet-occupied Eastern Zone of Germany which, though known by the general designation of 'People's Police', are only in part devoted to carrying out the normal functions of a police force. 'People's Police', as understood in Eastern Germany includes, beside the police proper, a 'State Security Service' that is in effect a political police, and the nucleus of a sizable military force comprising land, naval and air arms.

Streamlining the People's Police

2. "A decisive turning point in the development of the People's Police was reached in 1950 when the entire force, which up to then had been growing in very broad, more or less haphazard fashion, was subjected to a period of consolidation of its internal structure. A large-scale purge eliminated all politically unstable and administratively inefficient elements, thereby materially heightening the People's Police's effectiveness and reliability.

3. "Arrangements to have police units quartered in their own army-style barracks, a move designed to set them apart from all normal, civilian routine as the nucleus of a future army, were considerably speeded up; in the case of infantry units this drive may even be said to have reached a successful conclusion at that time.

4. "Also in 1950 the first outlines of the organizational system and the operating methods of the State Security Service could be discerned.

Strength of the People's Police

5. "From these beginnings there has come a force that today totals about 131,000 men. The various branches of the People's Police have the following strength:

Non-military police	50,000
Border police	17,000
Military police	60,000
State Security Service	4,000

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Western Protests

6. "The creation of military forces in such numbers naturally could not be kept hidden from the Western powers. These, as soon as they had obtained definite indications of the true nature of the People's Police, presented the USSR with a series of notes recalling the agreements made at the Potsdam Conference with regard to the future treatment of Germany, and strongly protested the remilitarization of the Soviet-occupied Eastern Zone.

7. "These representations were summarily dismissed by the Soviets. They declared, in a note of 19 October 1950, that the Soviet Union emphatically rejected as completely groundless any allegations made by the US that the People's Police of the German Democratic Republic (official name of the East German state) fulfilled any but proper police functions and that it constituted a de facto army.

8. "The People's Police, the note continued, had been established as early as 1945, with the single task in mind of safeguarding the normal functioning of a government of law and order. Organization and equipment of the People's Police were in accordance with Directive No. 16 of 6 November 1945, of the Control Council for Germany. As evinced in the Directive, the Control Council had considered it necessary that German police 'take an active part in maintaining law and order'. To this it had added the provision that no pro-fascist elements be permitted to serve in any German police force, a stipulation scrupulously adhered to in the establishment of the People's Police .

9. "The People's Police of the German Democratic Republic, the note concluded, protects and defends the democratic system of law and order established in Germany in accordance with the resolutions adopted at the Potsdam conference.

10. "Not content with this statement of innocence, the Communists subsequently accused the Western powers of re-arming their zones of Germany, and they contended that the People's Police were needed to offset the effects of such threatening 'capitalist-imperialsit' behaviour. This argument was pure fancy, of course, but it at least served to imply that the People's Police might one day be called upon to play a role much less peaceful than the one it had been assigned in the cited note.

11. "No matter, though, what the official party line on the People's Police may be at the moment, there has by now become available so much detailed and conclusive information about the People's Police, and its undeniably military character that, on this score, the Communists can no longer expect to hoodwink anybody but their most gullible followers.

First Recruits

12. "The establishment of special police units quartered in barracks during the summer of 1948 was preceded by the initiation of new recruiting methods. The first personnel to be transferred to the new groups, called 'Alert Units' in East German parlance, were members of the already existing police force who had had military experience and were considered politically trustworthy. In the beginning, two of these Alert Units of 250 men each were stationed in all five states of the Eastern Zone. New enlistments and transfers by late 1948 had increased this number to a total of 7500 men.

13. "Indoctrination courses, generally lasting no more than eight weeks, were instituted to turn out sufficient numbers of non-commissioned officers and officers up to the rank of captain. Some of these also came directly from POW camps in the Soviet Union, where Germans willing to enter the People's Police were released before all other prisoners.

New Organizational Setup

14. "All police units quartered in military fashion were then placed under the administration of the newly established Central Department for Border Police and Alert Units in the Ministry of the Interior. This was the first clear indication that these new units were to be entirely independent of the command organization of the police proper. Hermann Rentzsch, a career officer in the

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German Army since the days of the Weimar Republic, who, after his capture at Stalingrad, had been specially trained for assignments such as this one by the Soviets, became Chief Inspector of the new office. Vinzenz Muller and [illegible] von Weech, two former German generals, were among others occupying leading positions within the new police forces.

15. "As soon as the foundations for these separate units had been laid, the communal police of the Eastern Zone also came in for a measure of reorganization. These forces, which had been wholly local in character up to then, were reshuffled into a thoroughly centralistic system and, in each state, placed under the command of a State Office of the People's Police.

16. "At the same time, large-scale production of uniforms and barracks equipment for the People's Police was begun. Reconstruction of former German army barracks, which had already been underway to provide housing for refugees (whose plight was summarily dismissed now), was intensified so that an ever increasing number of Alert Units might be accommodated.

Uniforms

17. "The groundwork for a drive towards centralization had to some extent already been laid-almost from the very beginnings of the People's Police in 1945. Prime evidence of this can be found in the fact that the same police uniforms and designations of rank, from the start, had been in use all over the Eastern Zone.

18. "All branches of the People's Police wear identical uniforms; members of different services can only be distinguished by their insignia and pipings. This uniform is dark blue and in its cut resembles that of the former German army. Blue shirts and red neckties are worn with open coats.

19. "Designations of rank are the same as in the German police before 1945; also, the same insignia are used. In general they correspond to the following US designations: private, private first class, corporal, sergeant, staff sergeant, Fahnrich (no equivalent in the Army - an officer candidate who has passed all his examinations but not yet received his commission), Second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel, Brigadier General, Lieutenant General.

20. "This hierarchy of field grades is duplicated within the administrative command of the People's Police, whose officers are selected according to their abilities as political functionaries. Furthermore, special political officers, so-called 'Polit-Culture Officers', are assigned to each administrative office. These in most cases lack any kind of military qualification - their sole responsibility is the ideological indoctrination and supervision of the units of which they are members. As will be shown later on, these 'commissars' have considerable influence on the affairs of the People's Police.

Central Administration

21. "All the changes made within the structure of the People's Police over the years culminated, after the proclamation of an East German government in 1949, in the establishment of the Central Administration of the German People's Police, or HVDVP (Hauptverwaltung Deutsche Volkspolizei) as part of the Ministry of the Interior. This is the office where most of the command channels of the People's Police, which are arranged in a strictly centralistic pattern, converge. Its seat is in Berlin - Niederschonhausen.

22. "The principal departments in the HVDVP, which may be taken as a fairly reliable delineation of the extent of its command authority within the People's Police, are: Polit-Culture, Border Police, Protective Police (general German term for all straight-duty police), Criminal Police, Transport Police, Administrative Police, Health Police, Personnel, Administration.

23. "Up until late 1950, the Central Department of Prisons and Penitentiaries, which at that time was elevated to the status of Central Administration and placed directly under the direction of the Minister of the Interior, also had been part of the HVDVP. This office is responsible for all penological

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affairs of the Eastern Zone of Germany

Chief of the People's Police

24. "The head of the HVDVP bears the title of 'Chief of the People's Police', even though not all branches of that force fall under his authority. Following the death of the first Chief of the People's Police, Kurt Fischer (who most likely was liquidated), Karl Maron assumed his position. He has long been a member of the German Communist Party and lived in Moscow from 1934 to 1945. Shortly after the end of World War II he was appointed Vice Mayor of Berlin by the Soviet Commandant; later on he was elected to the municipal assembly. Prior to his selection as Chief of the People's Police he had been head of East Berlin's Department of Commerce.

Border Police

25. "The Border Police was established in its present form at the end of 1948. As noted, its highest command is the Central Department of the Border Police in the HVDVP. On December 31, 1950, its intermediate commands, the Departments of the Border Police in the aforementioned State Bureaus of the People's Police were dissolved, so that today all 'Border Alert Units', as they are termed officially, are directly controlled by Berlin.

Border Alert Units

26. "A Border Alert Unit normally has a strength of 594 men and is subdivided into three commandanturas of four commands each.

27. "All in all, there are twenty-five Border Alert Units; twenty stationed along the border between Eastern and Western Germany, three protecting the borders between the Eastern Zone and the Western Sectors of Berlin, and two training units.

28. "For the purpose of forming larger tactical groups out of the individual Border Alert Units, the Eastern Zone has been divided into four sections. All units within one area, regardless of state lines, belong to the same tactical force, and there emerges the following pattern:

a. Border Police North
   State of Mecklenburg: Border Alert Unit Bad Doberan, Stralsund, Greifswald

b. Border Police West
   State of Mecklenburg: Border Alert Unit Schonberg, Wittenburg, Eldena
   State of Saxonia-Anhalt: Border Alert Unit Salzwedel, Gardelegen
   State of Thuringia: Border Alert Unit Ellrich, Mihla, Dermbach, Meiningen, Koppelsdorf, Gefell

c. Border Police East
   State of Brandenburg: Border Alert Unit Brussow, Frankfurt-on-the-Oder
   State of Saxonia: Border Police Unit Bautzen, Pirna, Plauen

d. Border Police Berlin
   State of Brandenburg: Border Police Unit Blumberg, Falkensee, Teltow

29. "The training units have their bases at Aschersleben (Saxonia-Anhalt) and Sondershausen, respectively.

Armament

30. "Border policemen are armed with 98-k carbines (former standard German Army carbines) and pistols. At some later date, submachine guns are to be distributed.

31. "Judged on the strength of its armament and training, the Border Police, which today has about 17,000 members, may without hesitation be called a semi-military force.

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Transport Police

32. "The duties of the Transport Police include protection of railway installations and freight transportation, particularly that of reparations going to the USSR, and supervision of passenger traffic. Since January 1, 1951, this branch of the People's Police has been split up into the Transport Police and the Installations Protection Police, with the former concerning itself with the protection of all rolling stock and the latter charged with safeguarding all railway installations.

State Security Service

33. "As it has been accorded the most sweeping and extraordinary powers, the State Security Service, or SSD (Staatssicherheitsdienst) is eminently fitted for its role as a political police. Command authority over it is vested in the Ministry of State Security, which has its seat in Berlin-Lichtenberg.

34. "The next highest command level is represented by State Administrations for the State Security Service in the five Lander, with seats at their respective capitals: Potsdam, Schwerin, Dresden, Halle, Weimar. Directly under these range the Field Offices of the State Security Service in the Kreise (German equivalent of counties).

35. "The SSD also has its own liaison officers with all Border Alert Units and all units of the military People's Police who are responsible for all counter-intelligence affairs of those forces.

Establishment of the SSD

36. "When the first SSD units were formed during the fall of 1949, strenuous efforts were made not to divulge the true nature of this new organization. Also, the SSD in those first months did little more than to assume quietly all of the functions previously exercised by one of the sub-departments (K5) of the Criminal Police that had been charged with dealing with political offenses and security problems. An official acknowledgement of the role assigned to the SSD was forthcoming only after the Ministry for State Security had been established in early 1950.

37. "All officials of the SSD are hand-picked from among the most loyal members of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (name assumed by the East German Communist party shortly after the war when it absorbed the official leadership and some of the rank and file of the Eastern Zone's Social Democratic party), and regard their work as a party assignment.

38. "Although members of the SSD have ranks identical with those of the People's Police, that service's uniform, as a rule, is worn only by the staff and administrative officers, and almost never by field operatives.

39. "Head of the SSD is the Minister for State Security, Wilhelm Zaisser. During World War I, Zaisser, at that time an officer in the Imperial German Army, was taken prisoner by the Soviets. Shortly thereafter he became a Communist. During the twenties and early thirties he was sent on a number of party missions to Germany and the Far East, in all of which the line between organization and supervision of local Communist affairs and plain spying was none too clear. Later on he went to Spain, where, during the Civil War, he for some time commanded the International Brigade. He was known then as General Gomez. Zaisser has been a Soviet citizen for about the last twenty years.

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The Military People's Police

40. "On July 1, 1948, all Alert Units of the People's Police were placed under the command of the newly created Central Administration for Indoctrination whose name later was changed into Central Training Administration or HVA (Hauptverwaltung fur Ausbildung). This was the starting signal for the methodic formation and expansion of a section of the People's Police, which was wholly military in character. At first this endeavor was restricted to units, but very soon, as early as 1950, preliminary steps were also taken to set up naval and air arms.

41. "By the end of 1950 the land [ground] units of the People's Police were thought to have completed their initial period of consolidation and the inevitable purge to remove 'unreliable elements' could take place. After this weeding out, the land units had a strength of about 51,000 men, with the naval People's Police accounting for another 5000. (The air police at that time represented only a token force.)

Central Training Administration

42. "As noted, the high command over all army units of the People's Police rests with the Central Training Administration of HVA. In this role it may be compared to the former High Command of the German army. Until a separate Central Sea Police Administration was established, laying the groundwork for a naval arm [illegible] had also been the responsibility of the HVA, and the same procedure was followed in the case of the air police.

43. "The structure of the HVA shows beyond any doubt that we have here a purely military organization that is not in the least concerned with any tasks ordinarily assigned to a police force.

44. "Head of the HVA is Inspector General Hoffmann, who has a secretariat, which includes an interpreters office to assist him in fulfilling his duties.

Departments of the HVA

45. "He directly supervises the following departments which to a considerable extent are staffed with former German army officers:

a. Central Polit-Culture Department
   Head: Inspector General and Deputy Chief of the HVA Dolling
   Sections: Polit-Culture Cadres, Party Control Commission, Youth, Sports, Indoctrination, Press, Finances, General
b. Central Staff Department (with Staff Secretariat):
   Head: Inspector Bechler
   First Assistant: Inspector Scheffler
   Sections: Organization and Planning, Classified Projects (VVS), Maps, Administrative Training, Administration, Post Office, Staff Quartermaster
c. Central Personnel Department
   Head: Chief Inspector Kohn
   First Assistant: Commander Kubick
   Sections: Infantry (A), Artillery (B), Tanks (C), Pioneers (D-1), Communications (D-2), Administrative Personnel.
d. Central Department of the Inspector General
   Head: Chief Inspector Wulz
   Sections: Infantry, Artillery, Tanks, Communications, Pioneers, Administration.
e. Central Supply Department
   Head: Chief Inspector von Weech
   First Assistant: Commander Weigert
   Sections: Clothing and Equipment, Materiel, Ordnance, Finances, Buildings, Quarters and Properties.
f. Counter Intelligence Department
   Head: Inspector Markert
g. Communications Department
   Head: Inspector Moller

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Alert Units and Schools

46. "Since 1950, when it had first become possible to discern more clearly the structural outlines of the separately quartered police units, it has been unmistakably evident that these units, which are either People's Police Alert Units or People's Police Schools, are intended mainly as training centers for the officers and non-commissioned officers of a future army. The men from these units, effectively trained in their respective military crafts and thoroughly indoctrinated with the ideas of Communism, are to form the cadres around which, when the right moment comes, an army of vastly greater numbers could be built in a very short time.

47. "While there is a difference in strength between them, People's Police Alert Units and People's Police Schools bear the same organizational characteristics. Each of them has a staff consisting of: Unit Commander; Assistant to the Commander, dubbed 'Sovietnik', always an officer of the Red Army; Polit-Culture Command; Training Command; Tactical Command; Personnel Command; Administrative Command. A crucial position is occupied by the liaison officer from the HVA who is none other than the aforementioned representative of the SSD and also doubles as counter-intelligence officer.

48. "Below the staff level an Alert Unit or a People's Police School is organized in four commands of 240 men each of which are again subdivided into four groups each. Infantry units have a special 60-man mortar group.

Distribution of Units

49. "By late 1950, when the many successive organizational changes of the initial period had about come to an end, the HVA had under its command 39 People's Police Alert Units, 12 People's Police Schools, and 2 People's Police Special Schools, which, as the following compilation shows, were dispersed over all five states of the Eastern Zone:

a. State of Brandenburg

People's Police School I	Glowen (Artillery)
II	Prenzlau (Infantry)
People's Police Ordnance School	Doberlug-Kirchhain
People's Police Sports School	Potsdam
1st People's Police Alert Unit	Potsdam (Artillery)
2nd	Pinnow (Armored)
3rd	Prenzlau (Infantry)
4th	Berlin Treptow (Infantry)
5th	Kuchensee (Infantry)
6th	Potsdam-Eiche (Artillery)
7th	Treuenbrietzen (Artillery)
8th	Brandenburg-Hohenstucken (Pioneers)
9th	Brandenburg-Hohenstucken (Pioneers)

f. State of Mecklenburg

People's Police School I	Eggesin (Artillery)
II	Prora (Infantry)
III	Rostock (Infantry)
IV	PriemerwaldA (Armored)
1st People's Police Alert Unit	Sternbuchholz (Infantry)
2nd	Rostock (Infantry)

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C. State of Saxonia

People's Police School I	Zittau (Infantry)
II	Dobeln (Infantry)
III	Pirna (Pioneers, Signal Corps)
People's Police Administrative School	Leipzig
People's Police Hospital	Leipzig
1st People's Police Alert Unit	Leipzig
2nd	Leipzig (Infantry)
3rd	Leipzig (Artillery)
4th	Grossenhain (Armored)
5th	Frankenberg (Signal Corps)
6th	Zittau (Infantry)
7th	Lobau (Infantry)
8th	Frankenberg (Infantry)
9th People's Police Alert Unit	Dobau (Artillery)

D. State of Saxonia Anhalt

People's Police School I	Naumburg (Pioneers)
II	Torgau (Polit-Culture)
III	Kochstedt (Staff Officers)
1st People's Police Alert Unit	Klietz (Artillery)
2nd	Kirchmoser (Infantry)
3rd	Apollensdorf (Infantry)
4th	Quedlinburg (Infantry)
5th	Weissenfels (Infantry)
6th	Burg (Armored)
7th	Dessau (Infantry)
8th	Kochstedt (Signal Corps)
9th	Kochstedt (Signal Corps)

E. State of Thuringia

People's Police Interpreters School	Holzdorf
1st People's Police Alert Unit	Erfurt (Infantry)
2nd	Langensalza (Infantry)
3rd	Suhl (Infantry)
4th	Meiningen (Infantry)
6th	Erfurt (Infantry)
7th	Gotha (Infantry)
8th	Muhlhausen (Artillery)
9th	Muhlhausen (Artillery)
10th	Gera (Infantry)
10th	Apolda (Infantry)

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[redacted] Note: The above list is out of date as a result of a radical reorganization in December 1950.
Communications System

50. "One concomitant of the creation of the military People's Police was the establishment of an operational communications system that functions independently of that of the regular police. This separate network, which is the wire communications system type employing telephones and teletypes, has its central station at the HVA in Berlin. From there lines go to five control stations in the different states which in turn establish contact with the Alert Units and Schools. As a rule they are also able to link up with the regular telephone and teletype network of the HVDVP. The State Control Stations are located at Potsdam (Brandenburg), Priemerwald (Mecklenburg), Leipzig (Saxonia), Kochstedt (Saxonia-Anhalt) and Langensalz (Thuringia).

51. "It was soon found, however, that this wire communications system in no way was up to the tasks it had been built for, even though top priority rating was given to all installation and maintenance work connected with it. In the summer of 1950 first steps were taken to lighten the load placed on the existing communications system, with the eventual aim of converting most of the wire communications lines to radio-type connections. Plans call

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for installing 200-watt transmitters at all control stations and furnishing all field units with 20-watt transmitters. Orders for such equipment have been placed with, among others, Sachsenwerk Niedersedlitz, RFT Erfurt, Eelektrowerk Dabendorf. By early October of 1950, 200 20-watt transmitters had been accepted by the HVA, and orders for 200 more had been placed, for delivery later in the year.

52. "The State Control Stations have been temporarily out of commission since the end of January 1950. Consequently, all field units directly contact the HVA, and can communicate among each other only after Berlin has established a connection.

Armament

53. "Like practically every factual statement about the separately quartered units of the People's Police, a list of the arms and weapons they are equipped with furnishes direct proof of their essentially military nature.

54. "An infantry unit is equipped with: Pistols, (models 08, 38, 7.65 mm for officers only); submachine guns (MPi 38 44; carbines, model 98-k; rapid-fire guns (10 cartridges per clip); assault guns (model 42); light machine guns (MG 34, 42); heavy machine guns (MGT 08/15, Maxim); mortars (6, 8, 12 cm); stick hand grenades (model 24); hand grenades. (With the exception of the Maxim machine gun all these weapons had been standard models of the German army whose official designations are used here.)

Artillery

55. "Artillery units of the People's Police are equipped, in addition to light arms, with up to eighteen guns per unit. However, these are used for training purposes only and are not part of the People's Police battle equipment. The following types are in use: 5.5-cm light infantry gun; 15-2 [sic] in heavy infantry gun; 10.5-cm light field howitzer (model 18); 15-cm heavy field howitzer (model 18); 10.5-cm gun; 2-cm gour-barrel anti-aircraft gun; 8.8-cm, 12.5-cm anti-aircraft guns; 3.7-cm, 7.5-cm anti-tank guns.

Armor

56. "Armored units have a number of armored vehicles at their disposal, though again for instruction only. The following models are part of nearly every armored unit: T-34, Stalin tanks (Soviet); Tiger tanks (German); armored assault guns; armored weapons carriers; armored scout cars.

57. "In the summer of 1950 the Alert Units and Schools of the People's Police received larger shipments of Soviet-made arms, as a token of 'the Soviet Union's trust in the People's Police'. For the time being none of this equipment - mostly 7.62-cm, 12.2-cm and 15.2-cm guns- was given out and used; at most of the bases it was locked away in separate storage facilities immediately upon delivery. It is known, for instance, that as early as July, 1950, the 1st People's Police Alert Unit of Brandenburg had received twelve 12.2-cm and 15.2-cm guns.

58. "From September, 1950, on, the following infantry weapons of Soviet make were assigned to almost every military People's Police unit: carbines (Model 38-length, 40.19 weight, 7.7; caliber, 7.6 mm); rapid-fire guns; sub-machine guns (with drum magazines); light machine guns (with drum magazines); heavy mortars.

59. "Sometime later it became general practice to use German-made weapons for basic training only and to conduct all live ammunition and tactical training with Soviet models.

Indoctrination

60. "Again, the indoctrination received by the People's Police bears no resemblance at all to what the ordinary policeman has to learn in his job. All indoctrination of the military People's Police is governed by one axiomatic assertion: 'A soldier of firm political convictions and thoroughly imbued with the idea

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of Communism will go on fighting even in the most desperate situation, while an ideologically unstable soldier, in the face of a much lesser danger, will surrender or even turn traitor.' This is the quintessence of the peculiarly Communist discipline of Polit-Culture. ('Polit' is a brain-child of the Communist theoreticians of the early twenties and stands for politics interpreted in accordance with the precepts of party doctrine.)

The Importance of Polit-Culture

61. "As a consequence of this fundamental premise, political instruction is stressed most heavily in the indoctrination of the People's Police. This subject is taught exclusively by Polit-Culture Officers especially trained for the job. They are the seconds-in-command after the unit commander, and all his orders have to be countersigned by them. Thus their position corresponds to that of the political commissars in the Red Army, who during World War II were in a large measure responsible for the valor and the steadfastness displayed by the Soviet soldier.

62. "Political instruction is given daily, in sessions lasting at least two hours and sometimes as long as four. In addition, the students are expected to take up political topics in their regular discussion meetings after hours. The most important courses on the curriculum are: History of the Communist Party of Soviet Russia; History of the German Workers' Movement; Political Theory in the Teachings of Marx and Lenin; History of the German Revolution (presumably refers to the overthrow of the Second German Empire at the end of World War I); The Achievements of the German Democratic Republic and how to Safeguard them; The National Front and the Peace Committees ('National Front' presumably refers to the hoped-for united stand of all German leftist groups).

63. "Polit-Culture officers receive their indoctrination at a special school at Torgau, where the following additional courses are taught: The Philosophy of Marxism, Historic Materialism, Dialectic Materialism, Political Economics, Current Affairs.

Basic Military Training

64. "Up to the summer of 1950 all basic training had been conducted along the lines prescribed in the training manuals of the former German army. Since that time, though, instructors have been guided more and more by Soviet training manuals printed in German.

65. "Second in importance to political indoctrination only is the instruction in the use of arms and weapons. All trainees are acquainted with both the special equipment of their particular unit and with that of other branches; infantry units, for example, receive fairly detailed instruction in the handling of armored vehicles and of heavy artillery pieces.

66. "Furthermore, all trainees are thoroughly familiarized with both the theory and practice of operations at the tactical level. In field exercises the emphasis is put on attack and penetration, street and hand-to-hand fighting, and camouflage.

67. "In the course of the second half of 1950, Alert Units for the first time left their regular bases for larger-scale field exercises at one or the other of the Eastern Zone's military reservations. Here actual combat conditions were simulated as closely as possible, with night operations a frequent feature of almost all exercises. Participation of larger units or of Soviet forces of comparable size is very rare. Observers from both the Red Army and the HVA attend all exercises, paying particularly close attention to the progress made in adopting Soviet-style tactics.

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Linguistic Training

68. "Perhaps the most revealing aspect of the People's Police's training program is the heavy emphasis placed on the teaching of Russian and the creation of a staff of skilled interpreters, indicating as it does the ultimate task held in mind for the People's Police. All Alert Unit members are given a thorough grounding in spoken and written Russian, and beyond this a special school turns out large numbers of staff interpreters.

69. "This school, located in Leipzig up to December 1950, was at that time moved to Holzdorf near Weimar. Leipzig, which, owing to its semi-annual trade fairs, still has a comparatively large number of foreign visitors, was thought to be not safe enough. At the opening of the new school, Inspector General Hoffmann, Chief of HVA, in a speech underlined the political necessity of extensive linguistic training for the People's Police. It was the aim of the school, Hoffmann declared, to provide the students, in courses lasting a whole year, with a command of Russian that would qualify them for service as interpreters with field units of the Red Army.

70. "As all students after passing their examinations are promoted to the rank of captain, it may also be assumed that some of them at least will be working with higher Soviet staffs.

71. "Students at the Interpreters School receive instruction in: Polit-culture, special Russian, German, mathematics, tactics, map reading, basic training, geography, training manuals, marksmanship, sports. In one month from 140 to 150 hours of instruction are given, with special Russian, as the most important subject, accounting for 70-75 hours. From 30 to 35 hours are given over to Polit-culture. Next on the list is tactics, with 10 hours. All other subjects take up less time than this. Every one-year course is expected to graduate at least 250 interpreters.

Sea Police

72. "From February until July of 1950 the HVA included a Central Department for Special Assignments whose task was to prepare the way for the forming of naval units within the framework of the People's Police. Then an order from the East German cabinet decreed the establishment of a Central Sea Police Administration or HVS, Hauptverwaltung Seepolizei, as a part of the Ministry of the Interior independent of the HVA. This new agency may be compared to the former High Command of the German Navy.

Uniform

73. "The uniform of the naval units of the People's Police corresponds in cut and color to that of the former German navy. Members up to the rank of chief petty officer wear the usual sailor's cap with a ribbon bearing the legend 'Sea Police'. A triangular shoulder patch worn on the left arm also displays this designation. Ranks from ensign on up wear a peaked cap with a police star inside a gold wreath. Officers are distinguished by gold sleeve braids; one for ranks up to colonel, and two for commodores and vice admirals. Special duty insignia are worn on both arms. Epaulettes are the same as with other People's Police units.

Establishment of the Sea Police

74. "In contrast to the land units, the Sea Police has not yet achieved its definite form; it is still training the groups that eventually will provide the backbone of the whole service. Its next most important task is the preparation of larger housing facilities for an increased number of naval units. In 1952 the Sea Police had between four and five thousand men; in the meantime this number has increased to 10,000.

75. "Determined efforts are made by the HVS, under the special direction of Commander Becker, to build quarters for this force and any additions to it that may be in the offing. As soon as a new barracks complex has gone up, the personnel of the Sea Police is increased correspondingly, either through transfer of naval personnel from other People's Police units or through new enlistments. In the latter case, former members of the

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German merchant marine or navy, especially if they held commissions or technical certificates, receive preferential treatment.

76. "Towards the end of 1950, the workers' housing development of the Volkswerft shipyards on Danholm were requisitioned to provide accommodations for between 2500 and 3000 Sea Policemen. Another 1200 were housed in the former concrete plant at Wolgast. Also at Wolgast, the ordnance depot of the Sea Police, great numbers of light arms, anti-aircraft guns, bord guns and ammunition are stored. At a number of places, Stubbenkammer on Rugen Island and Peenemunde-Karlshagen, for instance, the Red Army turned some of its quarters over to the Sea Police. In all these instances the conversion to military-type quarters took remarkably little time, which indicates the great importance attached to this project by the leadership of Eastern Germany.

Shipyards

77. "It is also expected that the Sea Police will soon have a sizable number of shipyards for its own exclusive use. Some time ago, the Peene shipyards at Wolgast, with a working force of about 2,000, were turned over to the Sea Police, and more recently it received authority over some of the shipyards at Stralsund.

78. "These facilities enable the Sea Police to have both repairs and new construction done under its own control. Again, this seems to be a very urgent matter with the East German government, which gave top priority rating to the construction of a new administration building at Oberschoneweide-Wuhlheide, near /in/ Berlin, that is to house special staff section charged with supervising all ship building for the Sea Police. (This building is popularly misnamed the Ministry of the Navy.)

Central Sea Police Administration

79. "The main administrative offices of the Sea Police are still in Berlin-Wilhelmsruh. Staff personnel numbered about 200 in November, 1950, and was distributed among the following departments: Central Secretariat, Flotillas, Schools, Battalions, Finances, Clothing, Supply, Motor Pools.

80. "Field units under the command of the HVS are: Sea Police Schools, Sea Police Flotillas, and Sea Police Battalions .

Sea Police Schools

81. "The schools for general naval training, which at the same time are the officer's schools, are at Parow and Sassnitz. At Kuhlungsborn there is a Communications school with special courses in submarine sound and measuring equipment. Another communications school was recently opened at Stubbenkammer.

Battalions

82. "The 1st Sea Battalion is stationed at Wolgast and today has a strength of about 600 men. Plans are underfoot to enlarge this number considerably and transform the whole unit into a base group from which the seagoing units will draw their personnel. Other battalions are stationed at Ahlbeck, Heringsdorf and Wismar.

Flotillas

83. "During May 1950 the 1st and 2nd Flotillas were established, at Zinnowitz and Wolgast respectively.

84. "As regular vessels the 1st Flotilla has five E-boats, built at the Berlin-Kopenick shipyards and delivered in November 1950. These boats carry a ten-man crew each.

85. "They are 78.74 long, 20-13 ft. wide, and have a height, from keel to deck, of 11.48 ft.

86. "Power is supplied by three Junkers 205-d aircraft engines, which are water-cooled and have a combined output of 2400 hp, each turning a separate screw. Speed attained is 23 knots.

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87. "At the Stralsund shipyards one of these boats was built 525 ft. longer and had its central screw moved to one side by 31.52 in. As a result of this experiment, it was claimed that higher speeds, up to 28.3 knots, were reached.

88. "The only armament, feasible for these vessels, which were designed above all to give very high speed performance and, therefore, are rather light, are light anti-aircraft guns.

89. "The 1st flotilla, on vessels such as the E-boat, is training the skippers and deck officers of the larger Sea Police, vessels yet to come. All its regular personnel is made up of former members of the German navy.

90. "The 2nd Flotilla has seven mine sweepers at its disposal, and in the near future is to engage in mine clearing operations in the Baltic.

Other Vessels

91. "Over the years, the Sea Police has received quite a number of vessels, but these do not yet represent the complete seagoing force envisaged for the Sea Police nor do they seem to be organized in any uniform system of allocation among the various units.

92. "For its training program for 1950, the Sea Police could count on: coast guard cutters, light and heavy mine sweepers, luggers and sailing vessels.

93. "The construction of luggers plays an especially prominent role in the East German rearmament effort. The current five-year plans call for the completion of 680 luggers and 100 Seiner (small luggers). However, for the time being most of these that are suitable for military operation go to the Red Navy.

94. "In another development, the Kopenick shipyards were commissioned to build twenty-five E-boats, and the shipyards at Damgarten received an order for 60 so-called 'surf boats' - light coast guard cutters suitable for operation within the three-mile zone. Both these construction programs had been brought to successful conclusion by the end of 1951.

Training

95. "A Sea Policeman receives his first training as a member of a Sea Battalion, which offers him instruction in the following courses: Polit-culture, boot training, customs service.

96. "Having successfully passed this stage, he goes on to a Sea Police School where all further instruction is given in three major courses, as shown in the following curriculum:

Course I:	Polit-culture, boot training
Course II:	General Naval Training, navigation
Course III:	Main course, subdivided in seven special courses:
1st Special Course:	General Navigation
2nd	Engineering
3rd	Signaling Techniques
4th	Radio Operating
5th	Gunnery
6th	Mine Laying and Sweeping
7th	Administration, Medical Service

Every student has to take the first two courses, but only qualified applicants are admitted to the special courses.

Weapons

97. "By November 1950, the Sea Police had at its disposal the following arms and weapons, all of which were to be used for training purposes only: pistols (Model 68); carbines (98-k); light and heavy machine guns; 2.2-cm four-barreled anti-aircraft guns; 2-cm anti-aircraft guns; ordinary guns of light and medium calibers; training torpedoes; training mines.

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98. "During the first days of October 1950, two large shipments arrived at Wolgast from Kaliningrad bringing 90 four-barreled anti-aircraft guns, with ammunition. These are now stored at the Wolgast arsenal and will eventually be installed on new Sea Police vessels.

Coastal Radio Station

99. "At Glowe on Rugen Island the Sea Police have erected their own coastal radio station. However, the transmitter used by this station is located miles to the east at Lome. For the time being the station is broadcasting on a somewhat restricted scale and its signals cannot be picked up outside a fairly limited area. Once its installation is completed, though, it will be linked up with the international radio network. Presently it broadcasts weather reports, at midnight and high noon, on a wave length of 500 kh.

Coast Guard

100. "Another development now underway is the establishment of a 'Coast Guard Service'. Aside from signal stations such as the one at the Kap Arkony lighthouse, a series of bases is to be built along the Baltic Coast. The easternmost of these bases, at Wolgast, is already completed, as is the one lying immediately to the west of it at Prerow. A special feature of these bases will be 26.24 ft. high guard towers that can be quickly disassembled and erected elsewhere by the troops themselves.

101. "The Coast Guard Service's principal tasks, are to control incoming and outgoing merchant and fishing vessels and to fight the extensive smuggling of both men and wares going on all along the Baltic Coast. Eventually, the Coast Guard Service is to be equipped with E-boats.

102. "Organizationally, the Coast Guard Service will be grouped in Coast Guard Battalions, the first of which is already in existence on Usedom Island.

103. "Since the Coast Guard Service has not yet grown beyond its very first stages, it is still too early to attempt to decide whether here again we are confronted with a police force that is predominantly military in character.

Air Police

104. "Compared to the Sea Police, the People's Police air arm has not developed very far yet. Its affairs are directed by a staff group of about 150, with offices in Berlin-Johannisthal, that eventually will constitute the Central Air Police Administration. Its head is chief inspector Kessler, who has a former major of the Luftwaffe, Heinz Zorn, as first assistant. As with all other branches of the People's Police, all developments leading to the establishment of the air police are closely supervised by the Soviet Control Commission.

105. "The only field units of the air police established so far are two glider schools at Harzberg (Thuringia) and Damgarten (Mecklenburg), where future pilots are instructed in the basic concepts of aeronautics and meteorology.

106. "To prepare for a large scale enlistment drive some time in the future, all branches of the People's Police have passed out questionnaires to their members designed to single out personnel with previous aeronautical experience, and the county offices of the People's Police have been ordered to go through their population files (all Germans must register with the police, listing, among other things, their profession and military service) to locate all former Luftwaffe personnel now in civilian walks of life.

107. "Finding quarters for the air police units should be relatively easy; undoubtedly they will be housed at the airfields used by the Red Air Force, most of which have been extensively enlarged in recent times.

108. "At this time, smaller groups of former Luftwaffe members are in the USSR for training as pilots and parachutists."

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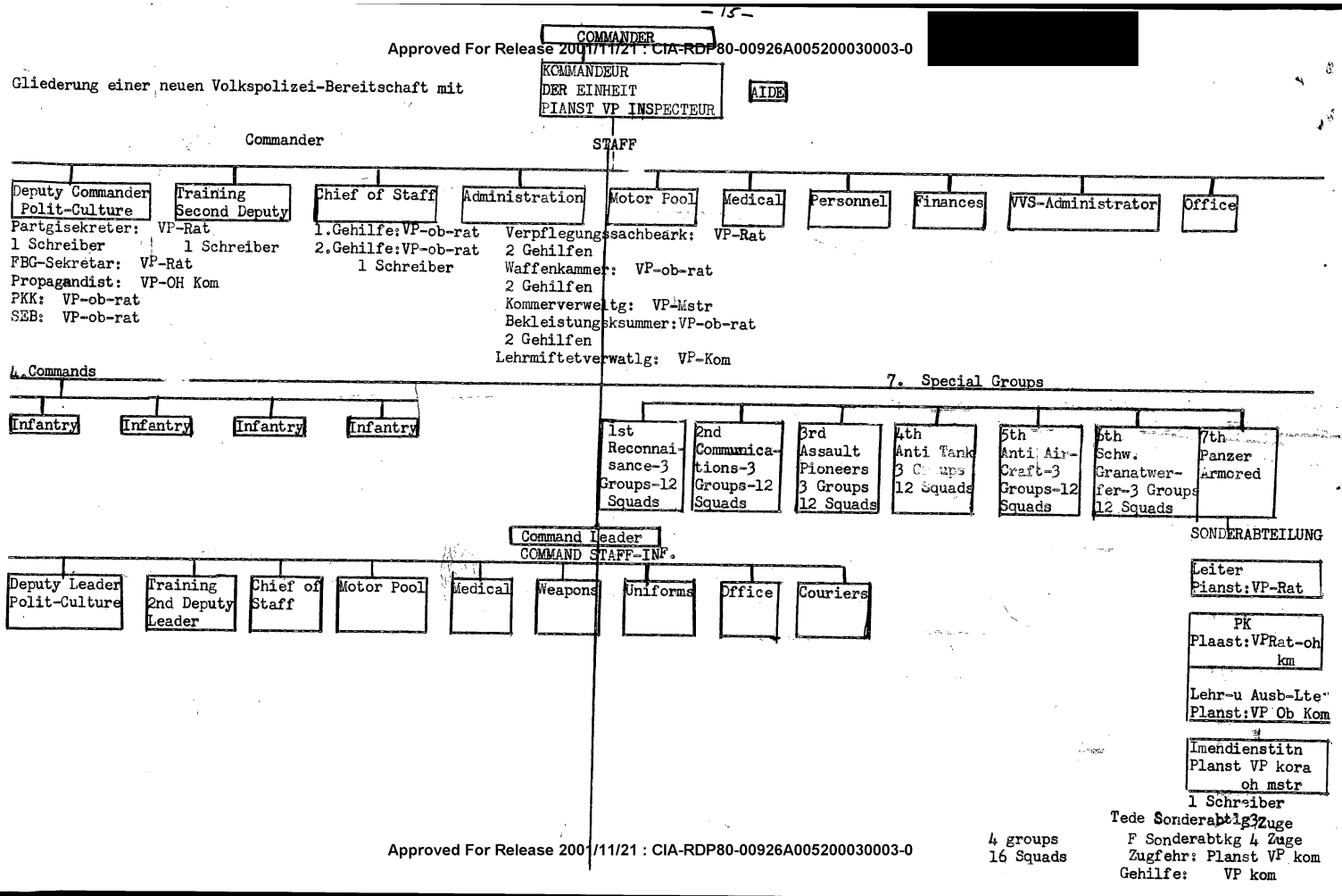
Gliederung einer neuen Volkspolizei-Bereitschaft mit



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1. Available from the CIA Map Library are two maps showing locations of the central offices and locations of the special groups, schools and so forth.

2. Available on loan from the CIA Library is an organizational chart of Soviet Control Commission showing organization and relation of the Central Staff, State and County offices, schools special groups, and so forth.

Call number for maps: 73547-R. To borrow, call code 143, ext. 25967

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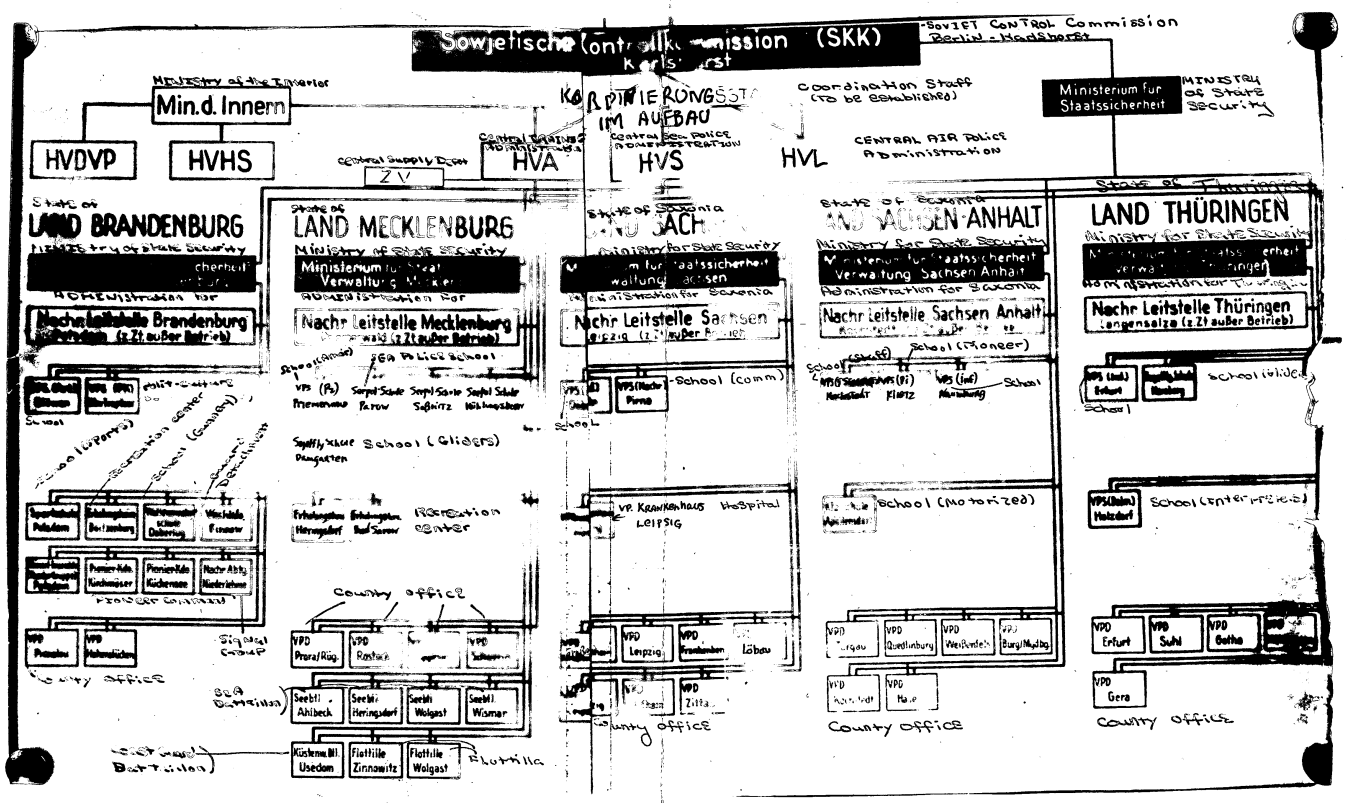

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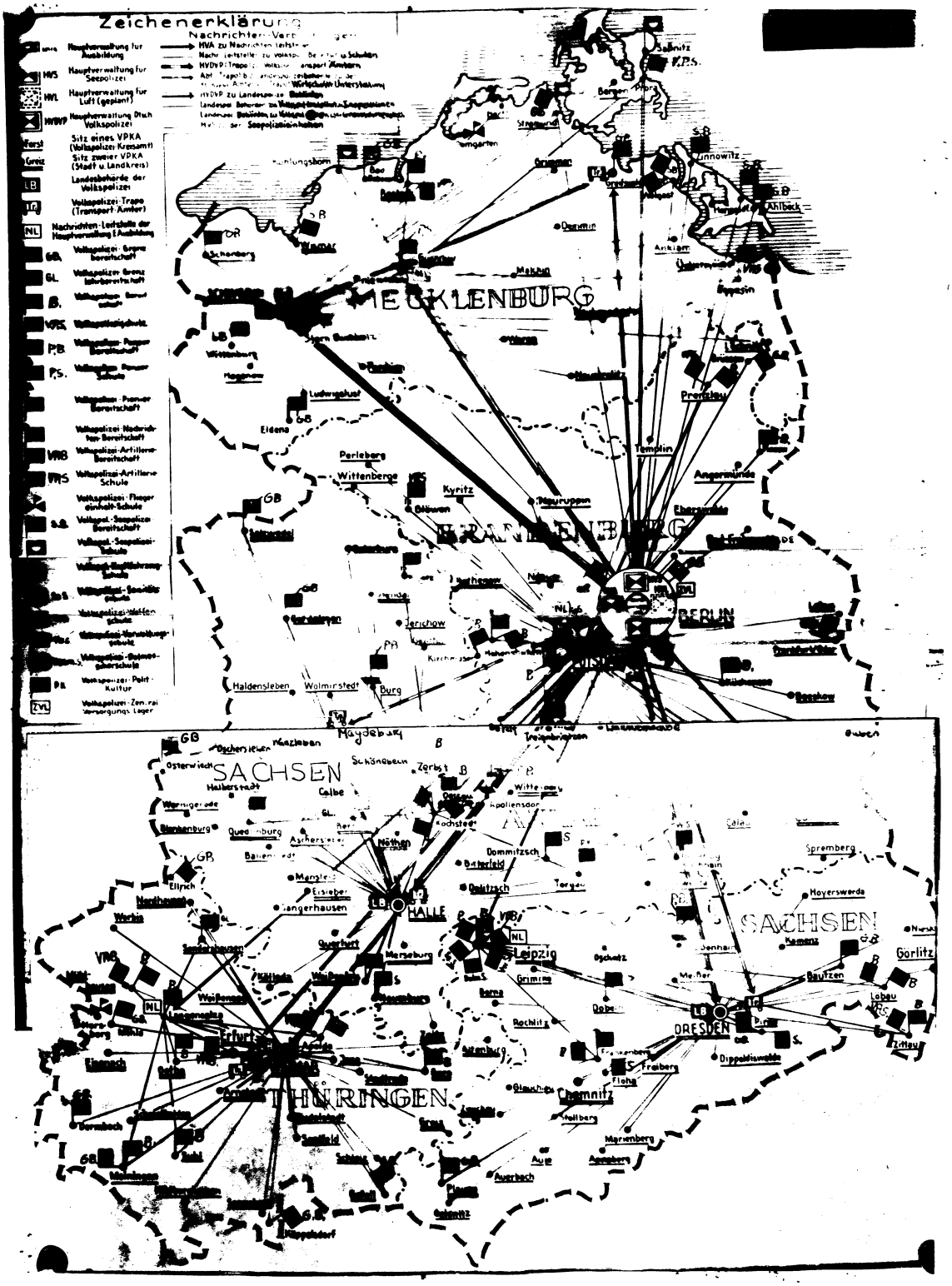

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